

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Jeffrey D. Meyer et al.

Serial No.: 09/560,509

Filed: April 27, 2000

Docket No.: 10002145-1

Title: INTERNET USAGE DATA RECORDING SYSTEM AND METHOD WITH CONFIGURABLE DATA COLLECTOR SYSTEM

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page ~~16~~³, line ~~28~~³, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A Similarly, second correlator collector 132 queries other sources session data collector 126 for the session data stored in session data storage system 166. Next, second correlator collector 132 queries the other sources usage data collector 128 for other data stored in other data storage system 168. The data is correlated in second correlator collector 132 and stored in second correlator collector data storage system 172. Aggregator collector 134 queries the first correlator collector 130 for correlated data stored in data storage system 170, and queries second correlator collector 132 for correlated data stored in data storage system 172. The aggregator collector 134 operates to correlate the two sets of data, and convert the data to a data format necessary for the specific usage application ~~458~~159. In one embodiment, the aggregator collector converts the correlated data sets to an internet data record (IDR) format and stores the IDRs in aggregator collector storage system 174. The stored IDRs are available for use by usage application ~~458~~159. Alternatively, API 136 may directly query the correlated data stored in data storage system 170, and provide the output to usage application ~~458~~159.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A² The network usage data recording system 120 according to the present invention having a distributed data storage system provides a system, collects data or accounting information from a variety of sources and makes that information available in a format (NMEs or other suitable format) that's convenient for some end processing or usage applications. Processing is accomplished at each level and each data storage system preserves its level of intermediate results. The results of a previous level flow through to a next level collector, which after processing stores yet another set of intermediate results. The data stored at each data storage system 162, 164, 170, 174 is available to a collector or other application at each level, but may also be accessed directly by a user. As such the distributed data storage system gives access to a user to the processed data at each level of processing.

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A² For example, at the third level API (application programming interface) 136 can directly query any of the data storage systems, 162, 164 or 170 via the CORBA bus 160, and provide the data to an appropriate usage application ~~158~~159.